

For Immediate Release

**INTERNATIONAL FINE PRINT DEALERS ASSOCIATION
ANNOUNCES SUPPORT TO SIX MUSEUM PRINT DEPARTMENTS
THROUGH 2016 CURATORIAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

Grant Recipients are the Chrysler Museum of Art, The Davis Museum at Wellesley College, Harvard Art Museums, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the RISD Museum, and The St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri – St. Louis

#IFPDA
#CollectPrints



Alison Van Denend, Library Company of Philadelphia, Summer 2014

New York, May 11, 2016—The **International Fine Print Dealers Association** (IFPDA) is pleased to announce the award of grants to six esteemed art institutions under the IFPDA Foundation’s program to support curatorial internships in museum print collections.

Founded in 1987, the IFPDA is the international authority on fine art prints and their connoisseurship and collection. As the leading non-profit organization of international art dealers, galleries, and publishers, the IFPDA is dedicated to increasing the appreciation for works on paper among collectors and the general public.

Now in its third year, the program will offer funding to awarded institutions to host a summer curatorial intern in each of their print departments, reflecting the IFPDA’s belief in the importance of early career exposure to prints, as well as its commitment to fostering connoisseurship among young curators, scholars and dealers.

“With the awarding of summer curatorial internship grants, we affirm the Foundation’s commitment to cultivating the appreciation of fine prints through institutional and professional contributions of the highest standard,” says **Michele Senecal**, Executive Director of the IFPDA. “The summer internship program recognizes the museums’ significant contribution to fostering

professional and public appreciation of fine prints, as well as the role of young scholars in strengthening the future of the field. We are proud to support these institutions and the next generation of print specialists in their indispensable work in the field of prints.”

This year's grant recipients are: the **Chrysler Museum of Art**, **The Davis Museum at Wellesley College**, **Harvard Art Museums**, **The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston**, the **RISD Museum**, and the **St. Louis Mercantile Library** at the **University of Missouri - St. Louis**.

Of the six, four institutions will utilize the IFPDA grant to develop new internship programs and two will expand upon existing opportunities. Each museum will offer object-based exposure to their print collection under the guidance of highly trained specialists, allowing trainees to gain in-depth experience in a variety of areas related to the archiving, handling, storage, and study of fine prints.

The Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, VA, will offer a new internship coinciding with their campaign to form a Works on Paper Study Center. Focusing on the museum's American prints in preparation for the exhibition *Branding the American West*, scheduled for fall 2016, the intern will collaborate with multiple departments across the museum, including Conservation and Education, and will also have access to the Jean Outland Chrysler Library, considered one of the finest art libraries in the southeast.

At The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, a new internship in the Works on Paper Study Center, a state-of-the-art storage facility and the only one of its kind in the American Southwest, will offer a curatorial intern the opportunity to study and work with prints within the museum's collection in advance of several planned exhibitions, as well as to learn vital handling and storage procedures.

A new internship at Harvard Art Museums in Cambridge, MA, will mark the first phase of cataloguing the museum's extensive collection of prints, beginning with French 18th century works. The intern will also have the opportunity to curate a rotation of prints on a subject of their choosing for exhibition in one of the museum's permanent galleries.

At the RISD Museum in Providence, RI, an existing internship now supported by the IFPDA grant will offer similarly catalog-based experience in Dutch and Flemish prints, for inclusion in the museum's 2018 exhibition and online catalog. The intern will also participate in seminars, discussions, field trips, and will give presentations on their projects, as well as write short texts on catalogued works.

The IFPDA grant will facilitate a new internship at the St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri at a time when state budget cuts have significantly affected opportunities for in-depth museum career experience. Working under the supervision of the Mercantile Library's Curator of Fine Art Collections, the intern will be trained in handling and preparatory skills, as well as research and cataloging, to support an upcoming exhibition of the museum's historic 19th and 20th century American prints.

Similarly, The Davis Museum at Wellesley College will expand their existing internship in prints to offer hands-on professional experience under the museum's Associate Curator. The intern will help to devise rotations within the collection, as well as to select prints in advance of the opening of three floors of new galleries at the Davis featuring works on paper alongside other media from the permanent collections.

About The IFPDA

Founded in 1987, The International Fine Print Dealers Association is a non-profit organization of expert art dealers dedicated to the highest standards of quality, ethics and connoisseurship. The IFPDA has grown to include nearly 170 members in 13 countries, whose areas of specialization range from old master and modern to contemporary prints, including publishers of prints by renowned contemporary and emerging artists. The IFPDA aims to promote a greater appreciation and a deeper understanding of fine prints among art collectors and the general public through the annual IFPDA Print Fair, as well as public programming, awards, and funding for institutions via its public charity, the IFPDA Foundation.

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Media Contact

For further information, images or to arrange an interview, members of the media may contact:

Elisabeth Meddin | Kat Mills

Blue Medium, Inc

+1 (212) 675-1800

elisabeth@bluemedium.com

kat@bluemedium.com